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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
Intelligence Producers Council  
Washington, D.C. 20505

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IPC 7511/88

14 June 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members, Senior Interagency Group  
Committee on Intelligence Requirements and Priorities, SIG-I

SUBJECT: Report on Information Gaps Relative to the FY 1988  
National Intelligence Topics (NITs) of Current Interest

1. In accordance with the schedule of actions you approved relative to the FY 1988 NITs, we wish to report on the efforts that have been taken to improve collection and production against the NITs for the current fiscal year. [REDACTED]

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2. The IPC Staff again identified gaps in information relative to the NITs by surveying production analysts throughout the Intelligence Community. In so doing, we asked the analysts to indicate which collection disciplines they thought might best redress the gaps. Our data showed that although the number of NITs rose by some 20 percent between 1987 and 1988, the actual cases of reported inadequacy fell by 10 percent. We don't know whether this is an aberration or a distinct improvement, but the IPC Staff intends to pursue the matter further. A summary of these findings appears in the attached report. [REDACTED]

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3. In March 1988, we sent the results of this survey to the various DCI collection committees and the Foreign Intelligence Priorities Committee (FIPC) to ascertain their reaction. Each committee has provided a report indicating the remedial steps it has taken or is implementing relative to their respective disciplines. Attachment A summarizes the respective reports. [REDACTED]

4. Although the NITs receive close attention from all the committees as they adjust their requirements, priorities, and strategies to reduce the impact of the gaps on intelligence production, the IPC Staff continues to believe that more can be done to improve the situation. The Staff is not

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convinced that the identified gaps are exclusively the result of collection shortfalls, and it will accordingly be working with production and collection organizations as well as with groups representing the analysts in order to get to the root of the problems. In particular, the Staff will assess the gaps data (Attachment B) by focusing on those gaps that persist from year to year, considering their priorities, and working with the DCI's collection and production committees to develop pro-active, constructive measures to eliminate or reduce those gaps. We will keep you advised of our progress in subsequent reports. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]  
James L. McCullough  
Chairman

Attachments:

- A. FY 1988 NIT Information Gaps and Appropriate  
Collection-Related Activities
- B. NIT Gaps Listing, FY 1988

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